

Retired Senior Chief Mass Communication Specialist (SW/AW) Scott D. Williams

Scott Williams enlisted in the Navy July 7, 1986 in his hometown of Indianapolis, Ind., shortly after high school graduation. After completing basic instruction at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill., he was meritoriously promoted to Seaman Apprentice and transferred to Defense Information School in Indianapolis for training as a Navy Journalist.

Williams completed Journalist "A" school and further training in "C" school, earning a Broadcast Specialist Navy Enlisted Classification. In June 1987 he reported to his first command, the Navy Broadcasting Service Detachment in Adak, Alaska. While there he operated television switching boards, studio cameras, became a television news and sports reporter and on-air anchor. Additionally, he spent a year on the radio station producing commercials and serving as an on-air radio show host. During this time he was promoted to Seaman, then Petty Officer Third Class and earned his first Chief of Information Merit Award (CHINFO) for radio "spot" production.



After reporting to USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) in July 1990, Williams was promoted to Petty Officer Second Class. He served on the public affairs staff of the dry-docked aircraft carrier in Bremerton, Wash., until March 1991, when he volunteered for a transfer to a ship serving in Operation Desert Storm. Once aboard USS New Orleans (LPH 11), he assumed duty from a transferring Chief Journalist as the ship's public affairs leading petty officer and de facto public affairs officer. The ship returned to San Diego in Sept. 1991.

In April 1993 Williams transferred to Naval Air Station Miramar in San Diego and began work on the public affairs staff as newspaper reporter, photographer and media escort. The following year he became a "plank owner" of the newly-formed Navy Compass newspaper, serving all Navy commands the San Diego area. In 1995 he was recognized as the U.S. Navy Print Journalist of the Year from CHINFO and was named the runner-up the following year. In 1996 he was promoted to Petty Officer First Class.

Williams reported aboard USS Tarawa (LHA 1), stationed in San Diego, in July 1997 as public affairs leading petty officer and de facto public affairs officer. In 1998 he made a Western Pacific and Persian Gulf deployment and at the conclusion was promoted to Chief Petty Officer. While at the helm of the ship's newspaper he and his staff earned the CHINFO Merit Award as the top shipboard publication in the Navy.

In July 2000 Williams was assigned to Commander, Amphibious Group Three at Naval Station San Diego as the staff public affairs officer overseeing 16 amphibious ships and three major component commands. He deployed with USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) in Dec. 2000 as a temporary public affairs officer until a relief arrived early in 2001. He was promoted to Senior Chief Petty Officer in April 2001 and was the lead Navy public affairs representative at numerous joint and combined exercises overseas. In 2003 he embarked with the Flag Battle Staff to Kuwait as part of an advance team to set up a base camp and port operations in preparation for the invasion of Iraq. At the outbreak of the war he was the Task Force public affairs officer for 32 amphibious ships and five port bases in the Central Command area of operations, providing guidance and coordinating national and international media embarks to Navy and Marine Corps amphibious units.

Williams transferred to USS Nimitz (CVN 68) at Naval Air Station North Island in March 2004, where he served as public affairs leading chief petty officer. In 2005 he embarked on a Western Pacific and Indian Ocean deployment. In 2006 his rating was converted to Mass Communication Specialist. He was involved with projects that are enduring legacies: the carrier manning initiative led by CHINFO; the combination of photography lab, print shop and public affairs into a newly-created media department; and the "ship-alt" reconfiguration of media department spaces. While he served as executive editor of the ship's newspaper it twice earned the CHINFO Merit Award for best shipboard publication.

In 2007 Williams reported to Commander, Naval Special Warfare Command in San Diego as the public affairs staff leading chief petty officer and the first-ever force senior enlisted advisor to the Mass Communication Specialist rating. In addition, he was the action officer for various print and television media projects including a Naval Special Warfare Center production that earned a Public Relations Society Capital Award for Excellence. The command publication he edited and helped to create in May 2008 received top honors from CHINFO as the Navy's best magazine publication.

He retired from the Navy after 24 years of honorable service with six Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, four Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals and numerous personal, campaign and unit awards.

He was immediately hired by the Navy SEAL & SWCC Scout Team at Naval Special Warfare Command and is currently the Team's public affairs officer and director of marketing and communications. He leads a team of two federal service civilians and a Navy mass communication specialist. The Scout Team's website, videos, and social media have consistently won CHINFO and industry awards during his tenure.

Williams is married and has three sons.